



VARIAN associates

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May 13, 1960

Professor Joshua Lederberg
Biology Department
Stanford University
Stanford, California

Dear Professor Lederberg:

At a recent American Rocket Society meeting I noted a paper by Drs. M. A. Gilleo and S. W. Kash, of our local Lockheed laboratory, on the subject of propulsion by projection of positive and negative ions. Since the paper is very similar to your own proposal, which we discussed some months ago, we thought you might be interested and I enclose a thermofax of the preprint. As you will note, the work is still largely on paper, but it may be possible that the Lockheed group intends to do experimental work as well.

Since we have a modest interest in the field of propulsion, our men are going to consider a number of possibilities also. At the moment, however, we are most enthusiastic about use of plasma for propulsion in which the negative charges are electrons.

It was a pleasure to talk to you at lunch the last time and I will be looking forward to our next meeting.

Sincerely,

E. W. Herold
Vice President, Research

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